

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 EB-08 NSF-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 SSO-00 INRE-00 /044 W

-----024434 101644Z /47

O 101625Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2914

USDOE WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 13308

USDOE FOR BILLY HILL AND STEVE GOLDMAN

OES/APT FOR MORRIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, TGEN, TECH, UW, US

SUBJECT: US-USSR ENERGY AGREEMENT; POSTPONEMENT OF US
GEOTHERMAL DELEGATION (08.0210); ENERGY FORECASTING AND
INFORMATION (08.01)

REF: STATE 105617

1. TROSHIN, MINPOWER, ADVISED EMBASSY JUNE 9 THAT
SOVIETS ARE UNABLE TO COMPLETE ON TIME PROGRAM FOR
GEOTHERMAL DELEGATION SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 18-30 AND
THAT VISIT WILL HAVE TO BE POSTPONED. SCICOUNS NOTED
TO TROSHIN THAT IT WAS SERIOUS DEVELOPMENT TO POSTPONE
A DELEGATION SCARCELY A WEEK BEFORE ITS SCHEDULED
ARRIVAL, PARTICULARLY SINCE THE DATES HAD BEEN AGREED
TO LAST APRIL. SCICOUNS ALSO REMINDED TROSHIN THAT THE
US HAD RELUCTANTLY AGREED TO CONTINUATION OF THE GEO-
THERMAL WORKING GROUP AT THE DECEMBER JCM TO ACCOMMODATE
SOVIET WISHES. TROSHIN COULD OFFER NO FURTHER EXPLANA-
TION, BUT NOTED THAT A LETTER FROM ALAD'YEF TO WILLIS
WILL BE FORTHCOMING SHORTLY, AND OPINED THAT THE VISIT
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MIGHT BE RESCHEDULED IN SEPTEMBER. TROSHIN FOBBED OFF
THE DIFFICULTIES THE POSTPONEMENT MIGHT CAUSE THE US
SIDE BY NOTING THAT THE COMPOSITION OF THE USDEL HAD
APPARENTLY NOT YET BEEN FIRMED. SCICOUNS RESPONDED THAT
THE COMPOSITION OF THE USDEL WAS DEPENDENT UPON SOVIET
INDICATION OF WHAT GENERAL AREAS THE SOVIETS WISHED TO
EMPHASIZE. WE HAD SO INFORMED THE SOVIETS ON APRIL 26

AND HAD RECEIVED NO REPLY (REFTEL).

2. SCICOUNS ALSO INQUIRED AS TO STATUS OF SOVIET RESPONSE TO THE US PROPOSALS FOR EXPANSION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ENERGY INFORMATION AND FORECASTING WORKING GROUP, NOTING THAT THIS WAS DUE MAY 1 AND THAT THE SOVIETS HAD PROMISED A RESPONSE BY MAY 10 AT THE LATEST. TROSHIN SAID HE HAD NOTHING NEW TO OFFER IN THIS AREA BUT PROMISED TO CHECK WITH YATROV ON WHEN A FORMAL SOVIET REPLY TO THE US PROPOSALS WOULD BE READY.

3. IN A RELATED DEVELOPMENT, MORRIS A. PARDEE AND SCICOUNS HAD DISCUSSED WITH AYKAZYAN, SCST, JUNE 6 THE POSSIBILITY OF A REVIEW AT THE JULY 17 S&T JCM OF THE ENERGY AGREEMENT. WHILE AYKAZYAN TENTATIVELY AGREED TO A JCM AGENDA ITEM ON THE ENERGY AGREEMENT, HE REFUSED TO ALLOW ANY REFERENCE TO EXCHANGES OF UNPUBLISHED INFORMATION ON ENERGY FORECASTS IN THE DRAFT JCM RECORD.

4. COMMENT: THE EMBASSY FINDS RECENT SOVIET PERFORMANCE ON THE ENERGY AGREEMENT TO BE UNACCEPTABLE AND TO WARRANT A PROMPT AND STIFF US RESPONSE. WE SUGGEST A LETTER FROM ENERGY CO-CHAIRMAN O'LEARY TO NEPOROZHNIY NOTING THE FOLLOWING POINTS: (1) IN THE LIGHT OF PAST DIFFICULTIES OF GEOTHERMAL COOPERATION AND THE ABRUPT AND UNEXPLAINED CANCELLATION OF US DELEGATION VISIT SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 18, CONFIDENTIAL

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THE US SIDE HAS DECIDED TO TERMINATE BILATERAL COOPERATION OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY. (2) NOTE WITH CONCERN THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE NOT YET RESPONDED TO THE US PROPOSALS FOR EXPANSION OF COOPERATION ON ENERGY FORECASTING, WHICH WAS DUE MAY 1, INDICATING THAT FURTHER DELAY WOULD HAVE A DELETERIOUS EFFECT ON BILATERAL COOPERATION IN ENERGY GENERALLY AND (3) INDICATE THAT WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO A FULL AND FRANK EXCHANGE OF DIFFICULTIES WE ARE EXPERIENCING IN THE ENERGY AGREEMENT AT THE FORTHCOMING S&T JCM. TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENERGY, AGREEMENTS, MEETING DELEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOSCOW13308
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780243-0654
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780673/aaaacksj.tel
Line Count: 104
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b6afb8b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 105617
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2405376
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-USSR ENERGY AGREEMENT; POSTPONEMENT OF US GEOTHERMAL DELEGATION (08.0210); ENERGY FORECASTING AND INFORMATION (08.01)
TAGS: ENRG, TGEN, TECH, UR, US
To: STATE COM
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b6afb8b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014